



Weather and Crop Highlights

October 10, 2003

- In Manchuria, generally warm, showery weather favored late corn and soybean development. In northern growing areas (Heilongjiang), the first widespread autumn freeze came later than usual, reducing the potential for significant freeze damage to crops that were delayed in development.
- On the North China Plain, heavy rain raised additional concern for cotton quality in southwestern growing areas, and may have resulted in additional local flooding and delays in autumn fieldwork. Otherwise, periods of warm, sunny weather in September favored maturation of corn and soybeans. Winter wheat planting prospects are excellent.
- In southern China, the continuing trend of unseasonable warmth and dryness favored rapid harvesting of rice and other summer crops, but further depleted long-term moisture reserves.
- In mid-September, a drier weather pattern developed over the Korean Peninsula, improving conditions for rice maturation and fostering typhoon recovery efforts. A passing typhoon brought untimely showers to rice areas of central Japan late in the month.

Joint Agricultural Weather Facility (JAWF)